



Winter 2-25-2014

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Recommended Citation

Patsavas, Tia, "New Music Series to Feature Two Premieres" (2014). *News and Events*. 2311.
<https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/2311>

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New Music Series to Feature Two Premieres

Feb. 25, 2014

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— The School of Music's New Music Series will present the classical, Chicago-based chamber trio Concordance Ensemble at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 27 in Westbrook Auditorium of Presser Hall on the University's campus. The ensemble will be joined by special guest performer Patricia Morehead, adjunct faculty at Columbia College Chicago and Dominican University in River Forest, Ill., and David Vayo, Fern Rosetta Sherff professor of composition and theory at Illinois Wesleyan.

The concert will showcase the premieres of *Prairie Portraits* by Morehead and *Trio for Violin, Trumpet and Piano* by Amy Dunker, associate professor of music at Clarke University in Dubuque, Iowa.



Concordance Ensemble

The program will also include: *Ondine* from Maurice Ravel's *Gaspard de la nuit*, James Stephenson's *Trio Sonata for Violin, Trumpet and Piano* and Concordance Ensemble's *Soundscapes Improvisation I and II*.

Concordance Ensemble, which performs improvisation without rules and blends different varieties of music, consists of musicians Bang Lang Do on piano, Wesley Luke on violin and James Sherry on trumpet. In 2014, the ensemble will hold 24 concerts and workshops across the country, in addition to improvising and premiering pieces by Vayo, Dunker and Morehead.

Do is an international performer and the winner of multiple competitions, including Canada's Stepping Stone competition and the Eckhardt-Gramatte National Music Competition. She has taught at multiple institutions, including the Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland and Mahidol University in Bangkok, Thailand.

A member of multiple symphonies and orchestras, Luke has performed throughout the United States, Europe and Japan. He also teaches at colleges across Iowa, including the University of Dubuque, Northeast Iowa School of Music, Divine Word College and Loras College.

Musician, arranger, conductor and composer Sherry has performed at venues around the world, including Vietnam and Germany. He currently serves as assistant professor of music at the University of Dubuque, where he also directs the University's jazz and instrumental ensembles.

A guest member of the Concordance Ensemble, Morehead is a composer, oboist and co-founder of CUBE Contemporary Chamber Ensemble, a Chicago-based, collaborative arts ensemble that combines music, theatre and dance. Morehead, who composes works for chamber ensembles, orchestras and operas, will have three of her pieces performed at the concert.

Vayo, who will join the artists on keyboard harmonica for the group improvisations, teaches composition, improvisation and contemporary music at Illinois Wesleyan and is coordinator of the New Music Series. More than 400 of his compositions have been performed or broadcasted around the world.

Supported in part by the Anna McGrosso Visiting Artist Fund, the concert is free and open to the public.

For additional information, contact the School of Music Office at (309) 556-3061.

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